was US $ 16 billion. According to DGCI&S data on merchandise exports, primary products consisting mainly of traditional items constituted around 15 per cent of total exports whereas share of manufactured goods was 70% of total exports during April-December 2005-06.

(c) The share of agricultural and allied products in India's total exports was around 10% during 2004-05. The export growth rate of this sector was around 23% during April-December 2005-06.

Benefits of Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana to EOUs under SEZs

2559. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether EOUs and units in Special Economic Zones will not qualify for benefit under the Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) how Government propose to compensate those units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) In the Foreign Trade Policy 1st September, 2004—31st March, 2009 updated as on 7.4.2006, exports made by SEZ units and EOUs do not qualify for Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana benefits.

(b) and (c) Special Economic Zone is conceptually a foreign territory as all supplies to SEZ units are treated as physical exports and hence Government does not intend to incentivise export from a unit located in an SEZ. Similarly, EOUs have a special status of tax exemptions and permission to import various requirements, including the ones in Agricultural sector, duty free, and therefore VKGUY benefits are not extended to EOU units. Further, these units have been set up primarily for exports.

Share of EPZs/SEZs in exports

2560. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of Export Processing Zones/Special Economic Zones in the country's overall export performance during last three years; and

(b) how many Export Processing Zones/Special Economic Zones are in operation in the country as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The share of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) exports in the total exports of the country during the last three years is as below:

Year	Export from SEZs (Rs. crores)	Percentage contribution of SEZ exports
2003-04	13,854	4.72
2004-05	18,309	5.06
2005-06 (April-December, 2005) (Provisional)	14,873	5.06

(b) 15 Special Economic Zones are in operation at present.

Deliberations at World Economic Forum, Davos

2561. SHRI VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high power delegation recently participated at the meetings of the World Economic Forum at Davos;

(b) the issues relevant to the country deliberated at the Conference; and

(c) the details of the conclusions arrived at having an impact on the country's economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) Annual Meetings of World Economic Forum at Davos deliberate upon a number of issues pertaining to global trade and investment. Growth of Indian economy, emergence of India as an attractive investment destination, development of different sectors of Indian economy, advantages of doing business in India and trade & investment opportunities in various sectors in India were deliberated in the sessions held at this year's Annual Meeting. These interactions were aimed at a better appreciation of the business climate and opportunities in India to facilitiate investment decision making.